

Submitter:

Whitney Shake

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB210

I'm a citizen concerned with the unnecessary and ludicrous challenge to vote by mail in Oregon. I'm an advocate for disability rights, and the rights of the working class. Vote by mail has been an absolute success since its inception nearly 30 years ago. From 2000-2019, 61 million ballots were cast and THIRTY EIGHT (38) fraud cases were prosecuted (<https://sos.oregon.gov/elections/Pages/security.aspx>). Hardly worth mentioning and certainly not enough to sway even a single election, let alone elections spanning 20 years. SB 210 is creating a solution to a problem that simply does not exist.

Further, I understand that some in our state and federal government are desperate to leave the disabled and elderly in the dust, even going so far as to call them "parasites." But those of us that retain even a modicum of empathy won't allow that to happen. Vote by mail makes voting more accessible to those with movement and travel limitations. It benefits busy families and those working minimum wage jobs that simply cannot be abandoned to wait in long lines on voting day. The extra step of requesting a ballot would add an unnecessary impediment to the free exercise of voting rights for ALL. I implore you to reject SB 210.

Oregon's current vote by mail system is working beautifully and should not be changed. I recommend conservatives in Oregon go outside and learn about what life today is actually like, instead of living in an imagined past that was never, and will never be, reality. Please put that energy towards things that actually benefit Oregonians.